

# AN ABSTRACT

OF

## Certain Instructions given the Commissioners

For the taking care of the Sick and Wounded Men, and for the Relief of *Widows, Children, and Impotent Parents* of such as shall be slain in His *MAJESTIES* Service at *SEA*.

*Published for the better Direction of the Several Captains and other Officers in His Majesties Navy, in order to their giving Certificates for the Sick and Wounded Sea-men, Mariners, and Soldiers.*

(VIZ.)



**T**HAT the said Commissioners do sit constantly at *Painters-Hall* near *Queen-Hyth, London*; on *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays*; and oftner if there be cause.

**T**hat all Sick and Wounded Men when they are sent on Shore in any of His Majesties Ports, are, by the Instructions given by His Majestie and His Privy Councel, required to bring with them a Certificate under the hands of two principal Officers of the Ship, together with the Chyrurgeon General, or Chyrurgeon of the Ship to which they belong; that they fell sick, or were wounded in His Majesties Service, who are not (without such Certificate) to be received and provided for.

**T**hat if with conveniency they may, the Sick and Wounded be set on shore, at these places following, where Care is taken for their Quarters and Cure. (Viz.)

*London, Portsmouth, Ipswich, Southwold, Harwich, Chatham, Gravesend, Deal, Dover, Portsmouth, Weymouth, Dartmouth, Plymouth.*

**T**hat the Commissioners aforesaid, have appointed in each of the respective places of Reception, a Clerk, who shall keep an Account of the time when such Sick and Wounded men were set on shore, out of what Ship they were so set, and how long they continued under their several Cures; the Commander with the Purser of the Ship, and the Maior or other Chief Officer where they happen to be set on shore, are likewise to certifie the number of the Persons and the time of their Landing.

**T**hat the Maiors, Bailiffs, and other Chief Officers, in any the respective places of Reception, are Ordered by His Majesty and Councel, to take care and provide for good Quarters, and Billetting of all Sick and Wounded Sea-men, Mariners and Soldiers, so set on shore, with a Certificate as aforesaid; which Quarters the said Commissioners are to discharge.

**T**hat the Clerk of the Cheque in every of His Majesties Ports, upon coming in of any of His Majesties Ships, shall of course, and ordinarily, but more especially after any Fight or Engagement with the Enemy, send to the said Commissioners, or their Deputy or Deputies, a true List of all Officers and Sea-men, sick or wounded in such Service, and so set on shore respectively: Which List shall be signed by the said Clerk of the Cheque in order to the prevention and discovery of all false and pretended Certificates: And that the said Commissioners, or any two of them, do take special care that His Majesty be not doubly Charged with the Diet of the said wounded and sick men, both on shore and aboard the Ship during the time of their Cure; in order to which the Clerk of the Cheque, or other Officer, or Muster-Master, are hereby commanded to observe such Orders and Directions as they shall from time to time receive from the said Commissioners or any two of them.

**T**he said Commissioners or any two of them shall take care that so soon as any Mariners or Soldiers are recovered of their Sickness or Wounds, they be forthwith returned to their respective Ships, unlesse disabled by losse of Limbs or otherwise.

**T**hat the Commissioners aforesaid, or any two of them do seriously consider the Condition and Damage of all such persons as shall be Wounded in His Majesties Service at Sea, and certifie the principal Officers and Commissioners of His Majesties Navy their several and respective conditions, for their proportionable relief out of the Chest.

**T**hat the said Commissioners, or any two of them, are likewise duly to consider the condition of the Widows, Children, and Impotent Parents of such as shall be slain in His Majesties Service at Sea, and give them such relief as may be agreeable to the Rules of Charity, and may demonstrate the Kings Sense of their suffering Condition. And that all Deceits in abuse of the Kings Bounty may be prevented (in the Distribution of it accordingly) two or more Superiour Officers upon every Ship, together with the Purser, shall of course, and ordinarily at the coming in of every Ship, but more especially and extraordinarily after any Fight or Engagement with the Enemy, send to the Commissioners or their Deputies upon the place, a true List of all such Officers, Sea-men, and Souldiers as were wounded or slain in such Service, respectively mentioning those that are wounded in what manner, whether by losse of Lymb or what else may render the party more remarkable; that so the Parents, Widows, or Orphans of such as shall be slain, or disabled to Work, may receive His Majesties Bounty according to their several Merits.